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Assembly  
California Legislature



**TIM LESLIE**  
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, FOURTH DISTRICT  
August 30, 2004

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DEVELOP A MASTER PLAN TO END POVERTY IN CA.  
FAIRS ALLOCATION & CLASSIFICATION

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor  
State of California  
State Capitol, First Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

I respectfully request that you sign into law Senate Bill 1436, which would enact needed regulations to protect consumers from "spyware." I am principle co-author of this measure.

At the beginning of this year, Senator Murray and I introduced separate anti-spyware measures. It was not long after both measures were introduced that we both realized how difficult spyware would be to regulate.

While both measures were moving through the Legislature with bipartisan support, there was growing concern from the computer industry that both measures would unintentionally ensnare legitimate business practices. After many long months of negotiations, SB 1436 was amended with much of the language that was in my AB 2787, which had been previously negotiated with the industry. At that point, I came onto SB 1436 as a principle co-author.

SB 1436 bans the worst kind of spyware such as maliciously taking control of another's computer, logging keystrokes, stealing personal and financial information, opening pop-ups that cannot be closed, tracking what websites a user visits and modifying a user's settings. Signing SB 1436 would make California the first state in the nation to enact a workable solution to spyware that protects consumers *and* ensures that legitimate business practices are not hampered.

The implications of spyware are enormous, and if allowed to fester, it could become more damaging to Internet use than the spam that clogs so many e-mail inboxes. SB 1436 is California's opportunity to head off this digital scourge.

Again, I respectfully request that you sign this measure into law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Leslie".

**TIM LESLIE**  
Assemblyman, Fourth District

TL: kto